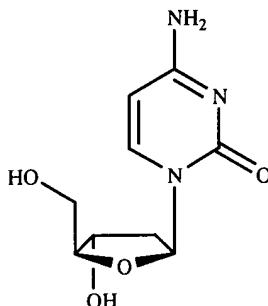


**In the Claims**

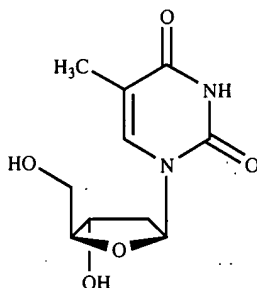
Please cancel claim 62. Please amend claims 13-17 and 39-61 as set out below.

13. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-2'-deoxycytidine of the formula:



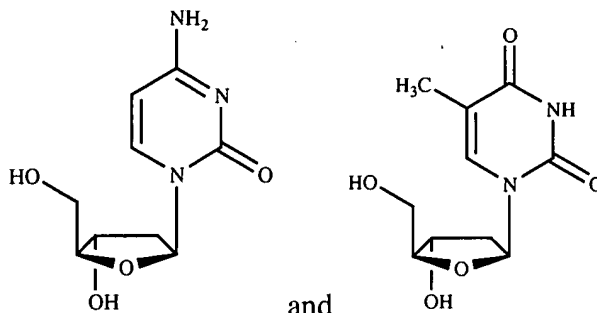
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-thymidine of the formula:



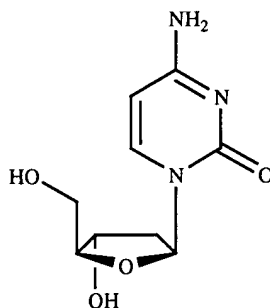
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a combination of the following nucleosides:



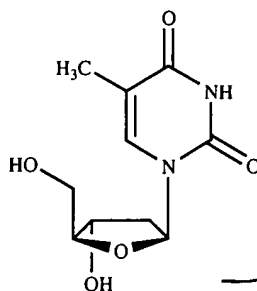
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC),  $\beta$ -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU),  $\beta$ -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir, 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylenecyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil); lobucavir, ganciclovir and ribavirin.

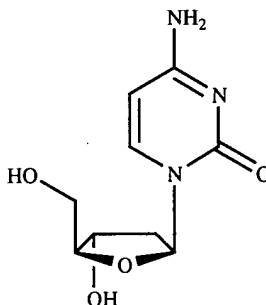
17. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC),  $\beta$ -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU),  $\beta$ -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir, 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylenecyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil); lobucavir, ganciclovir and ribavirin.

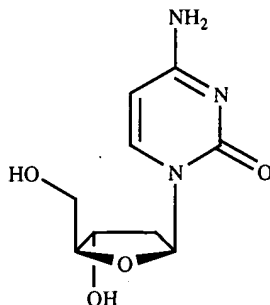
39. (Once Amended) The method of claim 37 or 38, wherein the dosage unit is a tablet or capsule.

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



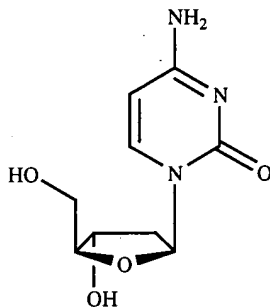
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

21. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

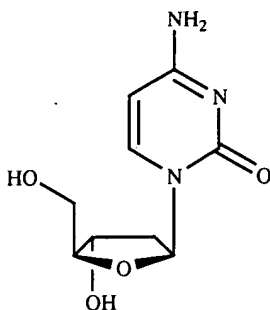
42. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4/  
43.

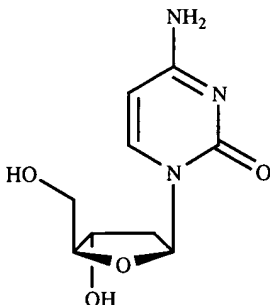
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of  $\beta$ -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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44.

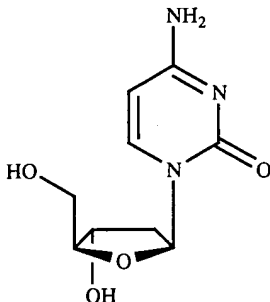
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of famciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

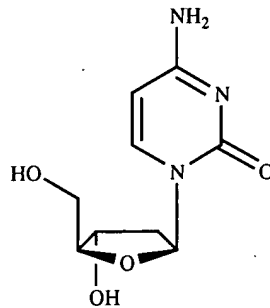
6/  
45.

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



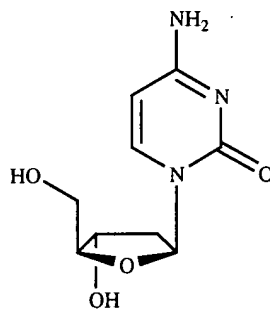
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of penciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

77  
46. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylene-cyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

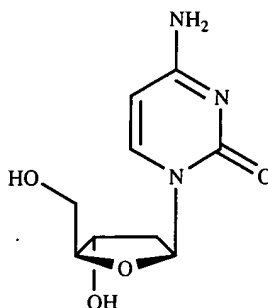
B4  
cont'd 8  
47. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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48.

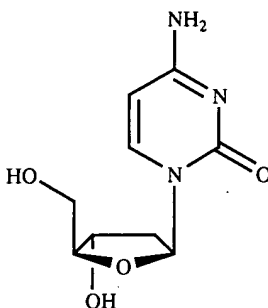
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of lobucavir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10  
49.

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:

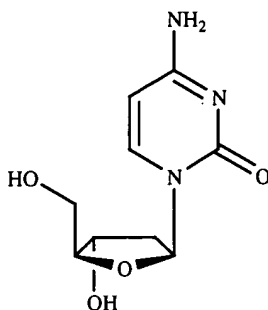


or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ganciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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cont'd  
1,064

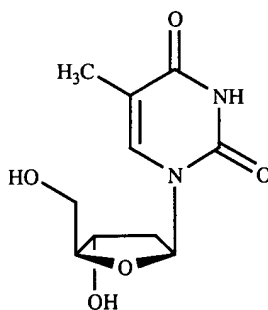
64

11/11  
50. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ribavirin, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

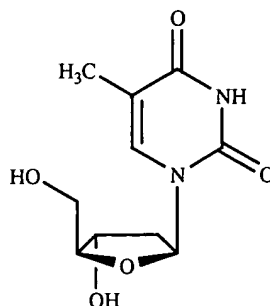
12/51. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

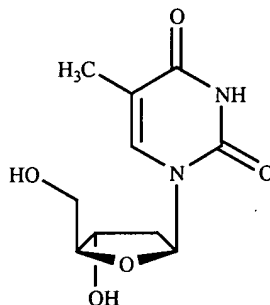


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52.  
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

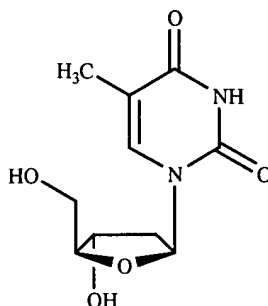
41  
53.  
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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54.  
10670

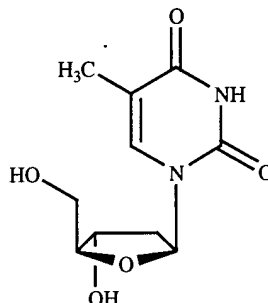
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of  $\beta$ -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

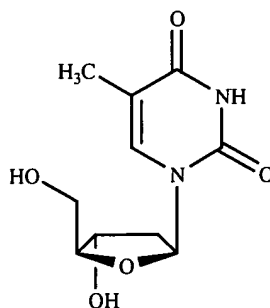
43  
55.  
B contd  
10671

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



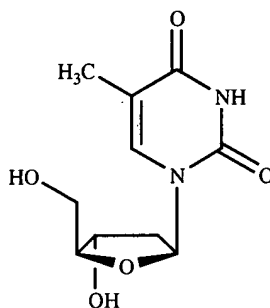
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of famciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11-144  
56. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of penciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

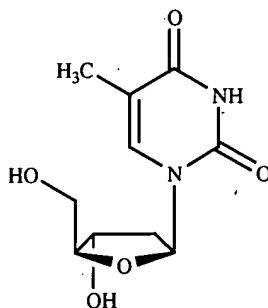
45  
57. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylene-cyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir, BMS-200475), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

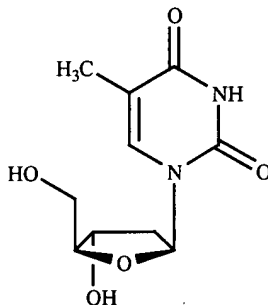
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58.  
—  
10690  
B4  
cont'd 47  
59.  
10691

(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

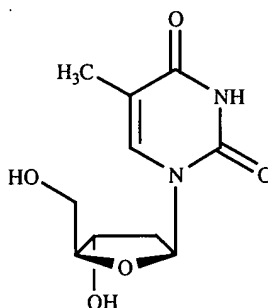
(Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of lobucavir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

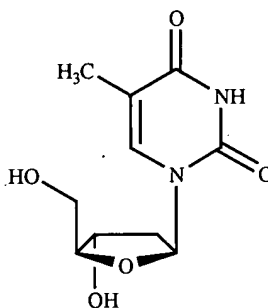
13 69 b

48  
60. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ganciclovir, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

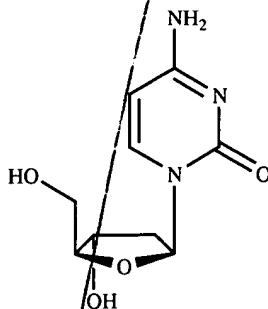
49  
61. (Once Amended) A method for the treatment of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of ribavirin, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

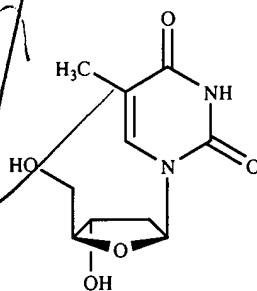
✓  
Please add new claims 63-67.

63. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-2'-deoxycytidine of the formula:



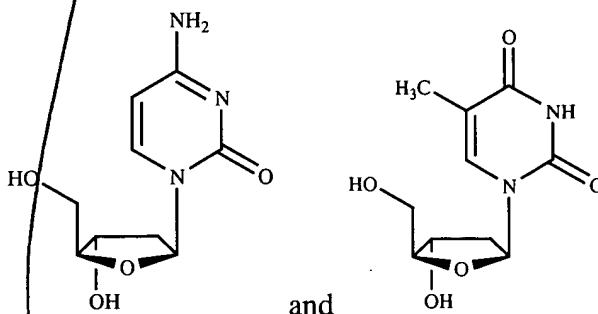
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

64. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of  $\beta$ -L-thymidine of the formula:



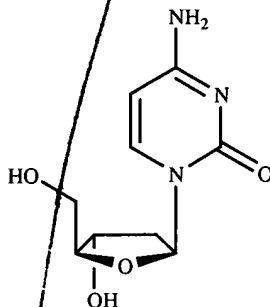
or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

65. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a combination of the following nucleosides:



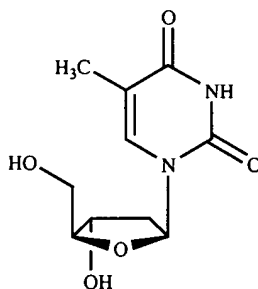
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

66. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC),  $\beta$ -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU),  $\beta$ -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir, 2-amino-1,9-dihydro-9-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-2-methylenecyclopentyl]-6H-purin-6-one (entecavir/BMS-200475), 9-[2-(phosphono-methoxy)ethyl]adenine (PMEA, adefovir, dipivoxil); lobucavir, ganciclovir and ribavirin.

67. (New) A method for the prophylaxis of a hepatitis B virus infection in a human comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination or alternation with an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of  $\beta$ -L-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(cytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (3TC), *cis*-2-hydroxymethyl-5-(5-fluorocytosin-1-yl)-1,3-oxathiolane (FTC),  $\beta$ -L-2'-fluoro-5-methyl-arabinofuranosyl-uridine (L-FMAU),  $\beta$ -D-2,6-diaminopurine dioxolane (DAPD), famciclovir, penciclovir,